



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Press Release

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### **Idaho Potato Stocks Up 16 percent from Last Year**

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers, and processors in Idaho on March 1 totaled 65.5 million cwt, 9.0 million cwt more than on hand March 1, 2009. Disappearance, at 65.5 million cwt is up from last year's 60.0 million cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest counties totaled 2.70 million cwt, up from last year's 1.80 million cwt. The Other counties' stocks, at 62.8 million cwt, were up from the 54.7 million cwt stored on March 1, 2009. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon used 6.88 million cwt of 2009 crop raw potatoes during February, up 2.4 percent from February 2009. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon have used 42.1 million cwt of 2009 crop raw potatoes to March 1, down 0.2 percent from last year. Idaho potatoes accounted for 36.6 million cwt of the total processed. The remaining 5.48 million cwt were produced in other states.

Nationally, the 13 major potato States held 170 million cwt of potatoes in storage March 1, 2010, up 11 percent from a year ago and 4 percent above March 1, 2008. Potatoes in storage accounted for 44 percent of the 2009 fall storage States' production, 3 percentage points above March 1, 2009. Potato disappearance, at 214 million cwt, was 2 percent below March 1, 2009 and down 9 percent from 2008. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 20.9 million cwt, was up 12 percent from the same date in 2009 and 3 percent above 2008. Processors in the 9 major States have used 108 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 7 percent from the same period last year and down 14 percent from 2 years ago. Dehydrating usage accounted for 19.8 million cwt of the total processing, down 8 percent from last year and 22 percent below the same period in 2008.

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